



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO TO SPONSOR ESTERLINE IN ALWTS

**INDIANAPOLIS, IN-** Esterline Motorsports' owner and driver Tully Esterline is proud to announce The University of Toledo College of Engineering has procured primary sponsorship of the No. 10 Chevy S-10 for the remainder of the ARCA Lincoln Welders Truck Series 2007 season.

"I am so excited to be working with UT," said Esterline, a 2001 cum laude graduate from UT. "I have kept close ties there in the years after graduation, and their people have always been good to me. The college understood that working in motorsports was a very viable dream for me. And they could help me get there."

Esterline's mechanical engineering degree, along with more than a decade of competitive racing, propelled him into his very first motorsports job- as director of engineering for Brewco Motorsports, Inc., a winning NASCAR Busch Series two-car race team based in Kentucky. After four years of long hours and cross-country and international travel, Esterline left that job in December to take a position as an engineer/designer for C&R Racing in Indianapolis. His current duties include drawings and design work in Pro E and cooling system research.

"I cannot stress the importance of getting a degree- it's directly related to a career in motorsports," Esterline said. "I wouldn't have gotten half as far as I have, or made it to this stage in my life, without the engineering degree to compliment my racing background."

"Tully is the alumnus we like to highlight to the engineering community and future engineering students," said Christine M. Smallman, Director of College Relations and Facilities Management for UT. "Well-rounded, enjoys the field of engineering and truly a professional in his field. Our dean constantly tells our graduates to strive for that which is beyond the cubicle. To reach for the many exciting pathways the career of engineering can take you. Tully is clearly an example of one of our alums who have achieved that dream."

"UT's College of Engineering has a fine Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering. The automotive program coupled with the formula SAE motorsports initiatives allow students to experience what a career in motorsports would expose them to."

Just last week, Esterline got the chance to work at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway with Team Leader Racing and driver PJ Jones in an attempt to make this month's Indianapolis 500. Jones was piloting the bright orange No. 40, the same color and number as the STP turbine car his father Parnelli drove in the 1967 Indianapolis 500. Unfortunately, Jones failed to qualify last Sunday on Bump Day.

"It was just something I never thought I'd get to be a part of," Esterline said. "That was the first time I've even had my head underneath one of those cars. It's so amazingly different from a stock car."

"I learned a ton from (C&R Racing's) Chris (Paulsen) and Bruce (Ashmore). I know that being in there, working with these two guys, was just as much of a privilege as just being at Indy. They both have so much experience. As racers, we just were really disappointed. We're definitely not 'quitters', and we didn't give up. It's taken all of us some time to get over this one."

After missing the ALWTS race at Toledo Speedway on May 19 because of his duties at the Speedway, Esterline will be back in his own truck seat again when the series visits Kil-Kare Speedway on Friday, June 15.

“Now that I am working at C&R instead of in NASCAR, the biggest bonus for me is being able to spend more time with my family,” he said. “I actually get to be home at night and on the weekends and race the truck more often than I have in the past. Bringing UT on board is just the ‘icing on the cake’. I’m really looking forward to a long relationship with the college. We definitely have a chance to be in the top-five in owner’s points at season’s end.

“I just want to thank everyone for hanging in there with us through all the hard times. Roger and Peg (Rupp Seeds), and everyone else involved that have been with me for so long and they have never stopped believing. Now are the years to make it all ‘right’ and have fun and be successful. We also want to welcome C&R Racing, NEO Synthetics, M&R Redi Mix, and Borel & Company to Esterline Motorsports for 2007. Thanks for all your support”

To find out more about beginning a motorsports career with UT’s College of Engineering, log on to [eng.utoledo.edu](http://eng.utoledo.edu).

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